

IN THE CLAIMS

*The status of the claims as presently amended is as follows:*

1. (*Currently Amended*) An image pickup apparatus, comprising:

a focus lens;

a rotatable ring an operating member;

a detection device ~~that adapted to~~ detects ~~a rotating an~~ operation-state amount of said ring operating member;

a first control device ~~that adapted to~~ cause[[s]] said focus lens to be moved and stopped in an optical axis direction thereof based on results of the detection by said detection device; and

a ~~responsiveness~~ second control device ~~that adapted to~~ controls ~~responsiveness of~~ linear changes in focus to the ~~rotating operation state of said ring member detected by said detection device in accordance with at least depth of focus~~ a moving amount of said focus lens corresponding to the operation amount of said operating member detected by said detecting device.

wherein said second control device is adapted to render the moving amount of said focus lens corresponding to the operation amount of said operating member detected by said detection device when the present state of said focus lens is in the first depth of focus greater than when the present state of said focus lens is in the second depth of focus, the first depth of focus being deeper than the second depth of focus.

2. (*Currently Amended*) [[An]] The image pickup apparatus as claimed in claim 1, comprising:

~~an optical lens group including said focus lens;~~

a recording device ~~that adapted to~~ record[[s]] a picked-up image picked up via said optical focus lens group onto a recording medium, and

~~wherein said responsiveness~~ second control device controls the responsiveness of linear changes in focus to the ~~rotating operation state of said ring member~~ the moving amount of said focus lens corresponding to the operation amount of said operating member detected by said detection device in accordance with the depth of focus that has been corrected based on a pixel density of the picked-up image and a pixel density of a recorded image to be recorded onto the recording medium.

3. (*Currently Amended*) ~~[[An]] The image pickup apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said responsiveness~~ second control device controls the responsiveness of linear changes in focus to the rotating operation state of said ring member the moving amount of said focus lens corresponding to the operation amount of said operating member detected by said detection device in accordance with exposure time.

4-5. (*Canceled*)

6. (*Currently Amended*) ~~[[An]] The image pickup apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said detection device comprises a photoelectric conversion type sensor.~~

7. (*Currently Amended*) ~~[[An]] The image pickup apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said detection device comprises a magnetic type sensor.~~

8. (*Currently Amended*) ~~[[An]] The image pickup apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said operating member is a rotatable ring member~~ which is disposed in concentricity with an optical axis of said focus lens, and is mechanically disconnected from the focus lens.

9. (*Currently Amended*) ~~[[An]] The image pickup apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said focus lens comprises an inner focus type lens unit.~~

10. (*Currently Amended*) A control method for an image pickup apparatus including at least a ~~rotatable ring~~ a focus lens, an operating member, a detection device ~~that adapted to detects a rotating operation state of the ring~~ an operation amount of the operating member, and the control method comprising:

a ~~first control device that causes a step of causing the~~ focus lens to be moved and stopped in an optical axis direction thereof based on results of the detection by the detection device~~[[,]]; and~~

the control method comprising a ~~step of controlling responsiveness of linear changes in focus to the rotating operational state of the ring member detected by the detection device in accordance with at least depth of focus~~

a second control step of controlling a moving amount of the focus lens corresponding to the operation amount of the operating member detected by the detection device.

wherein said second controlling step comprises the step of rendering the moving amount of the focus lens corresponding to the operation amount of the operating member detected by the detection device when the present state of the focus lens is in the first depth of focus greater than when the present state of the focus lens is in the second depth of focus, the first depth of focus being deeper than the second depth of focus.

11. (*Currently Amended*) A control computer-readable medium storing a computer program for causing a computer to execute a control method for an image pickup apparatus including at least a rotatable ring focus lens, an operating member, a detection device that adapted to detects a rotating operation state an operating amount of the ring operating member, and the control method comprising:

a first control device that causes a step of causing the focus lens to be moved and stopped in an optical axis direction thereof based on results of the detection by the detection device, the control method comprising a step of controlling responsiveness of linear changes in focus to the rotating operation state of the ring member detected by the detection device in accordance with at least depth of focus;

a second control step of controlling the focus lens to move by an amount corresponding to the operation amount of the operating member detected by the detection device,

wherein said second controlling step comprises the step of rendering the moving amount of the focus lens corresponding to the operation amount of the operating member detected by the detection device when the present state of the focus lens is in the first depth of focus greater than when the present state of the focus lens is in the second depth of focus, the first depth of focus being deeper than the second depth of focus.